

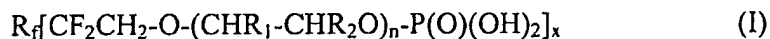
**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-15 (Cancelled).

16. (Currently Amended) A cosmetic and/or dermatological composition for topical use comprising, as active substances, polyphenols in association with a suitable carrier, wherein said composition contains, ~~as stabilizing agent, an effective~~ amount of at least one perfluoropolyether phosphate which is effective for stabilizing said polyphenols against oxidative degradation.

17. (Previously Presented) A cosmetic and/or dermatological composition according to claim 16, wherein said stabilizing agent is a perfluoropolyether diphosphate according to formula (I)



wherein

X = 1 or 2;

R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> are independently selected between H and CH<sub>3</sub>;

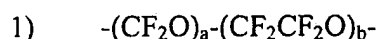
n is an integer between 1 and 50;

R<sub>f</sub> is a perfluoropolyether chain with a number average molecular weight between 400 and 1800, comprising repeating units selected from the following:

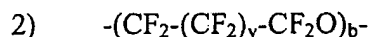
- a)  $-(C_3F_6O)-$
- b)  $-(CF_2CF_2O)-$
- c)  $-(CFL_0O)-$ , wherein L<sub>0</sub> = F, -CF<sub>3</sub>;
- d)  $-CF_2(CF_2)_yCF_2O-$ , wherein y = 1 or 2;
- e)  $-CH_2CF_2CF_2O-$ ,

and wherein, when  $x = 1$ , an end group is a pefluoroalkyl selected from  $\text{CF}_3\text{O}$ ,  $\text{C}_2\text{F}_5\text{O}$ ,  $\text{C}_3\text{F}_7\text{O}$ .

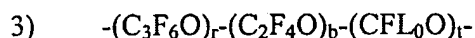
18. (Currently Amended) A composition according to claim 17, wherein  $R_f$  has one of the following structures:



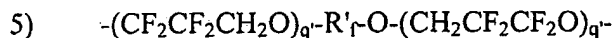
wherein  $b/a$  lies between 0.3 and 10 and  $a$  is an integer different from 0;



wherein  $y = 1$  or  $2$ ;



wherein  $r/b = 0.5-2.0$ ,  $(r+b)/t = 10-30$ ,  $b$  and  $t$  are integers different from 0;



wherein  $\text{R}'_f$  is a fluoroalkylene group with 1-4 carbon atoms;

$\text{L}_0$  is chosen between F and  $\text{CF}_3$ ;



wherein in the above formulas:

$-(\text{C}_3\text{F}_6\text{O})-$  represents units of formula:

$-(\text{CF}(\text{CF}_3)\text{CF}_2\text{O})-$  and/or  $-(\text{CF}_2-\text{CF}(\text{CF}_3)\text{O})-$

$a, b, b', q, r, t$  are integers, whose sum is such that  $R_f$  has values of number average molecular weight  $M_n$  lying of between about 400 and about 1800, ~~preferably between 500 and 1300.~~

19. (Currently Amended) A composition according to claim ~~16~~ 18, wherein the perfluoropolyether phosphates are perfluoropolyether diphosphates of formula (II):



wherein  $n = 1$  or  $2$ ,  $b/a = 0.5-3.0$  and  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $r$  have the meanings reported in claim 18.

20. (Currently Amended) A composition according to claim 16, wherein said at least one perfluoropolyether diphosphate is contained in an amount ~~included~~ of between 0.1 and 5.0% by weight of total composition weight.

21. (Currently Amended) A composition according to claim 20, wherein said at least one perfluoropolyether diphosphate is contained in an amount ~~included~~ of between 0.2 and 1.0% by weight of total composition weight.

22. (Currently Amended) A composition according to claim 19, wherein said at least one perfluoropolyether diphosphate is contained in an amount ~~included~~ of between 0.1 and 5.0% by weight of total composition weight.

23. (Currently Amended) A composition according to claim 20, wherein the polyphenol content is ~~included~~ in an amount of between 0.1% and 5% by weight of total composition weight.

24. (Currently Amended) A composition according to claim 22, wherein the polyphenol content is ~~included~~ in an amount of between 0.1% and 5% by weight of total composition weight.

25. (Previously Presented) A composition according to claim 16, further including vitamin E.

26. (Previously Presented) A composition according to claim 22, further including vitamin E.

27. (Previously Presented) A composition according to claim 24, further including vitamin E.

28. (Currently Amended) A composition according to claim 25, wherein said vitamin E is contained in an amount of between 0.5 and 10% by weight of total composition weight.

29. (Currently Amended) A composition according to claim 26, wherein said vitamin E is contained in an amount of between 0.5 and 10% by weight of total composition weight.

30. (Currently Amended) A composition according to claim 27, wherein said vitamin E is contained in an amount of between 0.5 and 10% by weight of total composition weight.

31. (Previously Presented) A composition according to claim 16, further including ascorbic acid.

32. (Previously Presented) A composition according to claim 25, further including ascorbic acid.

33. (Currently Amended) A composition according to claim 31, wherein the ascorbic acid is contained in an amount of between 0.1 and 10% by weight of total composition weight.

34. (Currently Amended) A composition according to claim 32, wherein the ascorbic acid is contained in an amount of between 0.1 and 10% by weight of total composition weight.

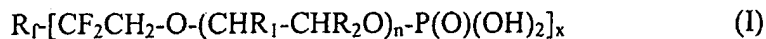
35. (Previously Presented) A composition according to claim 16, further including at least one compound selected from the group consisting of vitamin A, carotenes, carotenoids, lutein, lycopene and xanthophylls.

36. (Previously Presented) A composition according to claim 25, further including at least one compound selected from the group consisting of vitamin A, carotenes, carotenoids, lutein, lycopene and xanthophylls.

37. (Previously Presented) A composition according to claim 32, further including at least one compound selected from the group consisting of vitamin A, carotenes, carotenoids, lutein, lycopene and xanthophylls.

38. (Previously Presented) A composition according to claim 16, which is in the form of a cream.

39. (Withdrawn) A method of stabilizing cosmetic and/or dermatological compositions for topical use, comprising the step of adding to said compositions a perfluoropolyether diphosphate according to formula (I)



wherein

$x = 1$  or  $2$ ;

$R_1$  and  $R_2$  are independently selected between H and  $CH_3$ ;

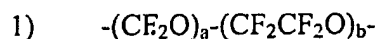
$n$  is an integer between 1 and 50, preferably 1-6;

$R_f$  is a perfluoropolyether chain with a number average molecular weight between 400 and 1800, preferably 500-1300, comprising repeating units selected from the following:

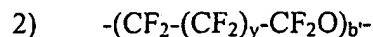
- a)  $-(C_3F_6O)-$
- b)  $-(CF_2CF_2O)-$
- c)  $-(CFL_0O)-$ , wherein  $L_0 = -F, -CF_3$ ;
- a)  $-CF_2(CF_2)_yCF_2O-$ , wherein  $y = 1$  or  $2$ ;
- b)  $-CH_2CF_2CF_2O-$ ,

and wherein, when  $x = 1$ , an end group is a perfluoroalkyl selected from  $CF_3O$ ,  $C_2F_5O$ ,  $C_3F_7O$ .

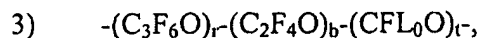
40. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 39, wherein  $R_f$  has one of the following structures:



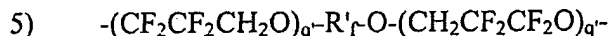
wherein  $b/a$  lies between 0.3 and 10 and  $a$  is an integer different from 0;



wherein  $y = 1$  or  $2$ ;



wherein  $r/b = 0.5-2.0$ ,  $(r+b)/t = 10-30$ ,  $b$  and  $t$  are integers different from  $0$ ;



wherein  $\text{R}'_f$  is a fluoroalkylene group with 1-4 carbon atoms;

$\text{L}_0$  is chosen between  $\text{F}$  and  $\text{CF}_3$ ;



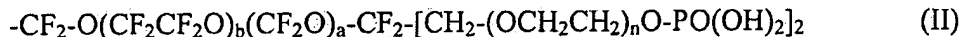
wherein in the above formulas:

$-(\text{C}_3\text{F}_6\text{O})-$  represents units of formula:

$-(\text{CF}(\text{CF}_3)\text{CF}_2\text{O})-$  and/or  $-(\text{CF}_2-\text{CF}(\text{CF}_3)\text{O})-$

$a, b, b', q', r, t$  are integers, whose sum is such that  $\text{R}_f$  has values of number average molecular weight  $M_n$  lying between about 400 and about 1800, preferably between 500 and 1300.

41. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 39, wherein the perfluoropolyether phosphates are perfluoropolyether diphosphates of formula (II):



wherein  $n = 1$  or  $2$ ,  $b/a = 0.5-3.0$  and  $a, b$  and  $r$  have the meanings reported in claim 25.

42. (New). A method according to claim 18, wherein  $\text{R}_f$  has values of number average molecular weight  $M_n$  of between about 500 and about 1300.